

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 010857

21

ORIGIN NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 RSC-01 IO-10 ISO-00

H-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15

PRS-01 SP-02 /088 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/P:GFSHERMAN
APPROVED BY NEA/P:GFSHERMAN
S/PRS - MR. FUNSETH (INFO)
H - MISS FOLGER (INFO)
IO/P - MR. BLACHLY
EUR/P - MR. JERABEK
NEA/ARN - MR. KORN
AF/P - MRS. RUSSELL

----- 058704

R 162042Z JAN 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMCONSUL DHAHRAN
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
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PAGE 02 STATE 010857

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY SANAA
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
CINCEUR

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CINCEUR FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

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TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING

GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS
FROM DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S PRESS BRIEFING JANUARY 16, 1975:

QUOTE: Q. WITHOUT ASKING YOU TO TELL US WHAT IS GOING ON
IN THE ALLON-KISSINGER TALKS, BECAUSE THAT I SUPPOSE WOULD
BE FUTILE, CAN YOU TELL ME, AS A GENERAL THEORY, DOES THE
STATE DEPARTMENT, DOES SECRETARY KISSINGER THINK A TEN-YEAR
FREEZE, OR A FREEZE FOR A STATED NUMBER OF YEARS AFTER THE
NEXT ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL IS A PROPOSAL THAT MIGHT BE ACCEPT-
ABLE -- AT LEAST WORKABLE, SOMETHING THAT CAN BE NEGOTIATED?

A. WELL, AS YOU COULD HAVE PREDICTED, I CANNOT SPECULATE
ON VARIOUS PROPOSALS THAT ARE MADE PUBLICLY. WE WILL CON-
TINUE, AS I THINK FOREIGN MINISTER ALLON SAID AS HE LEFT
THE DEFENSE DEPARTMENT, IN A PERIOD OF QUIET DIPLOMACY, AND
I JUST CAN'T COMMENT ON THE SUBJECT.

Q. WELL, I REALIZE THAT ALL THIS MAY BE FOR NAUGHT, BUT I
HOPE I PHRASED THE QUESTION IN A WAY THAT YOU UNDERSTAND IT.

I AM NOT ASKING YOU WHAT IS GOING ON IN THE NEGOTIATION.
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UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 010857

A. I REALIZE THAT.

Q. I AM ASKING YOU IF THE SECRETARY OR THE STATE DEPART-
MENT THINK A TEN-YEAR FREEZE, OR A FREEZE FOR A SPECIFIC
NUMBER OF YEARS IS A WORKABLE PROPOSITION -- NOT WHETHER
IT HAS BEEN PROPOSED OR NOT.

A. I REALIZE THAT. I DON'T HAVE ANY COMMENT ON IT, I'M SORRY.

Q. HOW IS IT TECHNICALLY, NOW? I JUST PRESUME THE SECRETARY WOULD ACCOMPANY ALLON TO THE PRESIDENT, AND MAYBE EVEN TOMORROW TO THE ROCKEFELLER APARTMENT. IS THAT THE WAY IT WILL BE?

A. THE SECRETARY WILL BE AT THE MEETING THIS AFTERNOON BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND FOREIGN MINISTER ALLON. AND THEN THE SECRETARY, AS HE MENTIONED YESTERDAY, WITH REGARD TO TOMORROW, THAT HE WOULD BE SEEING HIM AGAIN, AND THEY WILL BE HAVING BREAKFAST TOGETHER HERE TOMORROW MORNING.

NOW, THIS IS THE SECRETARY WITH FOREIGN MINISTER ALLON. WITH REGARD TO THE SECRETARY'S POSSIBLE PARTICIPATION IN THE MEETING THAT WILL TAKE PLACE WITH VICE PRESIDENT ROCKEFELLER, I WILL HAVE TO GET BACK TO YOU ON IT. AT THE MOMENT, THERE IS NOTHING ON THE SCHEDULE TO INDICATE THAT, BUT I DON'T RULE IT OUT.

Q. THE APPOINTMENT WITH ROCKEFELLER, WHEN IS THAT SCHEDULED?

A. I THINK IT IS 10 O'CLOCK, BUT IF I AM WRONG --PUT IT THAT WAY -- IF I AM WRONG, I'LL GET THE TIME.

Q. EXCUSE ME, JUST LET ME MAKE SURE. AS IT STANDS NOW, THE BREAKFAST TOMORROW MORNING WOULD BE THE LAST OPPORTUNITY FOR THE TWO TO GET TOGETHER OR TALK TOGETHER?

A. IT MAY OR MAY NOT.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 010857

Q. AS IT STANDS NOW, IT LOOKS LIKE THE BREAKFAST WILL BE THE LAST MEETING.

A. YES.

Q. IF I CAN GO BACK TO THE MIDDLE EAST, WHEN IS MR. EILTS SCHEDULED OR PLANNING TO GO BACK TO CAIRO?

A. I CAN'T GIVE YOU THAT, WHEN HE IS SCHEDULED -- HOW MANY MORE DAYS HE WILL BE HERE.

Q. DO YOU FIGURE HE WILL BE HERE THE REST OF THE WEEK?

A. I WOULD ASSUME SO, YES. BUT I HAVE NO EXACT TIME.

Q. THAT FACT THAT MR. ALLON WILL MEET THE VICE PRESIDENT TOMORROW, WILL IT REFLECT ANY FUTURE ROLE THAT MR. ROCKEFELLER MIGHT HAVE IN THE MIDDLE EAST PEACE TALKS, OR IS IT PURELY A COURTESY CALL?

A. I AM UNAWARE THAT THIS REFLECTS, HAS ANYTHING TO DO WITH ANY POSSIBLE ROLE, FUTURE ROLE, THAT THE VICE PRESIDENT MIGHT HAVE WITH REGARD TO THE MIDDLE EAST TALKS. I MEAN, AS YOU KNOW, IN THE PAST, A NUMBER OF FOREIGN LEADERS HAVE, WHEN THEY COME TO VISIT THE UNITED STATES, THE SECRETARY CONSIDERS, HAS CONSIDERED, EVEN WHEN HE WAS VICE PRESIDENT DESIGNATE, THAT IT WOULD BE VERY HELPFUL FOR THE VICE PRESIDENT TO HAVE A CHANCE TO MEET WITH FOREIGN LEADERS. I DON'T THINK IT IS ANYTHING MORE THAN THAT.

Q. THIS IS DONE FOR MR. ROCKEFELLER'S BENEFIT RATHER THAN FOR MR. ALLON'S BENEFIT.

A. I WOULD SAY IT IS PROBABLY MUTUAL.

Q. WHAT TIME DOES THE SECRETARY HAVE BREAKFAST?

A. LET ME FIND OUT. IT IS USUALLY 8 O'CLOCK.

Q. DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENT ON PRESIDENT SADAT'S INTER-
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PAGE 05 STATE 010857

VIEW TODAY CONCERNING THE THREE-MONTHS DEADLINE ON THE ISRAELI PULLBACK FROM ALL THREE ARAB FRONTS?

A. NO, I DON'T.

Q. HAS THIS SAME DEADLINE, OR WORDS TO THAT EFFECT, BEEN CONVEYED TO THE DEPARTMENT, OR WAS THIS INTERVIEW NEWS TO THE DEPARTMENT?

A. I DO NOT KNOW WHETHER IT WAS NEWS TO THE DEPARTMENT OR NOT.

Q. IF THAT INTERVIEW QUOTES MR. SADAT ACCURATELY, HE SPEAKS IN TERMS OF A THREE-FRONT WITHDRAWAL, THE NECESSITY FOR A SIMULTANEOUS WITHDRAWAL ON THREE FRONTS. IS THE SECRETARY STILL CONVINCED THAT THERE CAN BE AN INTERIM

AGREEMENT THAT IMMEDIATELY DEALS WITH ONLY ONE FRONT?

A. HERE AGAIN, I THINK RIGHT NOW I DON'T WANT TO GET INTO WHAT THE SECRETARY'S THINKING MAY BE AT THIS TIME. HE IS IN THE PROCESS OF TALKING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER ALLON TO

SEE WHERE WE MIGHT GO FROM HERE.

Q. THE STEP-BY-STEP PHILOSOPHY IS STILL VALID, ISN'T IT?

A. YES, IT IS.

Q. WELL, YOU DON'T TAKE THREE STEPS AT THE SAME TIME
GENERALLY IN A STEP-BY-STEP PHILOSOPHY.

A. WELL, I JUST DON'T WISH TO DEFINE THE STEP-BY-STEP --
END QUOTE. KISSINGER

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